



PRESS RELEASE  
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## The OSM and Kent Nagano in Quebec City and Toronto

**Montreal, January 21, 2010** – On January 22, 2010, in Quebec City, **Kent Nagano** will conduct the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal in a concert featuring, in the first part, celebrated American saxophonist **Branford Marsalis** and pianist **Olga Gross**. On January 25, Kent Nagano and the OSM will travel to Toronto to present a program with quite a different first part in the company of Austrian pianist **Till Fellner**. Stravinsky's *Firebird* will constitute the second part of both concerts.

### In Quebec City, Kent Nagano, the OSM, Branford Marsalis and Olga Gross

In the pomp and ceremony of Paris in 1909, the young Stravinsky made his debut in the magical world of ballet with *The Firebird*, whose music is a brilliant illustration of a fantastic fairy tale. Kent Nagano will conduct the work in its complete version, as well as Debussy's Rhapsody for alto saxophone and orchestra played by the incomparable jazz musician Branford Marsalis, the eldest of the Marsalis brothers and who forged his own identity through great versatility and masterly playing. Also on this highly diversified program is Messiaen's *Couleurs de la cité céleste*, a contemporary work this time showcasing the talent of pianist Olga Gross, who has accompanied the Orchestra on a number of tours. Two other works will be performed: Brahms's *Spanisches Lied* and Schubert's *Du bist die Ruh*, romantic works that will enable the two soloists to unite their talents.

### In Toronto, Kent Nagano, the OSM and Till Fellner

A disciple of Alfred Brendel and a partner of the OSM in the recording project of the complete Beethoven piano concertos, Till Fellner is revisiting the Orchestra and Kent Nagano this time in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 1, a classical tour de force shot through with youthful humor. This concert will open with a masterpiece by Weber – the Overture to his opera *Oberon* – and conclude with Stravinsky's magnificent *Firebird*.

The OSM thanks its partners for the Toronto concert : Tourisme Québec and Tourisme Montréal as well as VIA Rail, official carrier of this concert. The OSM thanks the Conseil des arts et lettres du Québec and the Canada Council for the Arts for their support.

**The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal is presented by Hydro-Québec**

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